

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
1685 "E" Street, Fresno, CA 93706

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
concerning
RENEWAL OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS
NATIONAL POLLUTION DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM
PERMIT CA0079219
FOR
CITY OF MERCED
WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY
MERCED COUNTY

The City of Merced is the owner and operator of the Merced Wastewater Treatment Facility (Facility), a publicly owned treatment works located at 10260 Gove Road, Merced, California. The Facility provides sewerage services for the city of Merced, serving a population of approximately 93,000. The Facility provides tertiary treatment for up to an average dry weather flow of 12.0 million gallons per day. Tertiary-treated wastewater from the Facility is discharged to (1) Hartley Slough, which is a tributary to the San Joaquin River, a water of the United States, (2) cropland, and (3) the Merced Wildlife Management Area.

Discharges from the Facility are currently regulated by Waste Discharge Requirements Order R5-2014-0096, issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) on 8 August 2014. An Order is proposed to renew the NPDES permit. The proposed permit includes new or updated effluent limitations for total recoverable copper, total ammonia, nitrate plus nitrite nitrogen, and electrical conductivity. The proposed permit will remove existing effluent limitations for maximum daily biochemical oxygen demand, maximum daily total suspended solids, mass of biochemical oxygen demand, mass of total suspended solids, and maximum daily total ammonia because alternative averaging periods for effluent limitations are appropriate for these constituents.

A public hearing concerning this matter will be held during the Central Valley Water Board meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 16/17 April 2020
TIME: 8:30 a.m.
PLACE: Kern County Administrative Center
First Floor, Board of Supervisors Chambers
1115 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield, CA 93301

The designated parties for this hearing are as follows:

- City of Merced

Only designated parties will have these rights: to call and examine witnesses; to introduce exhibits; to cross-examine opposing witnesses; to impeach any witness; and to rebut the evidence against him or her. All other persons wishing to testify or provide comments are interested persons and not designated parties. Such interested persons may request status as a designated party for purposes of this hearing by submitting such request in writing to the Central Valley Water Board no later than **5:00 p.m. on 16 March 2020**. The request must explain the basis for status as a designated party and in particular how the person is directly affected by the discharge.

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Persons or parties wishing to comment on this noticed hearing item shall submit testimony, evidence, if any, and/or comments in writing to the Central Valley Water Board email at centralvalleyfresno@waterboards.ca.gov with a cc to Nicolette Dentoni at Nicolette.Dentoni@waterboards.ca.gov no later than **5:00 p.m. on 16 March 2020**. Written evidence or comments submitted after **5:00 p.m. on 16 March 2020** will not be accepted and will not be incorporated into the administrative record absent a ruling by the Board Chair. Any person or party requesting to submit late materials must demonstrate good cause for the late submission, and the Chair must find that accepting the late submission will not prejudice the Central Valley Water Board or any Designated Party.

All designated parties and interested persons may speak at the Central Valley Water Board meeting, and are expected to orally summarize their written submittals. Oral testimony and cross examination will be limited in time by the Board Chair.

Anyone having questions regarding the hearing item should contact Nicolette Dentoni at (559) 444-2505 or Nicolette.Dentoni@waterboards.ca.gov. Interested persons may download the tentative Order and related documents from the Central Valley Water Board's [Tentative Orders Page](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/). Copies of these documents can also be obtained by contacting or visiting the Central Valley Water Board's office at 1685 "E" Street, Fresno, California 93706 weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. The [Final Meeting Agenda](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/) will be available at least 10 days before the meeting. The agenda will provide the specific date the Board Meeting will be held for this item, indicate the anticipated order of all agenda items, and may include staff revisions to the proposed order(s).

The [Procedures Governing Central Valley Water Board Meetings](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq. [Information on Meeting and Hearing Procedures](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml) (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml) is available on the Central Valley Water Board's website or by contacting any one of the Central Valley Water Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839.

The hearing facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Kiran Lanfranchi-Rizzardi at (916) 464-4839 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

14 February 2020

Original Signed by:
SCOTT J. HATTON, Supervising Engineer